



MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens

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MEMORANDUM

TO: The Governing Board

FROM:  Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Hon. ASLA, Executive Officer

DATE: March 7, 2007

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item VIII: Consideration of a resolution authorizing accepting the donation of approximately 400 acres of vacant land located in Elsmere Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County, APNs 2848-017-011, 012, 015, 016, 017; 2828-015-005, 006, 007, 008, 009; 2848-016-004.**

Staff Recommendation: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing the acceptance of the donation of approximately 400 acres of vacant land located in Elsmere Canyon, unincorporated Los Angeles County, APNs 2848-017-011, 012, 015, 016, 017; 2828-015-005, 006, 007, 008, 009; 2848-016-004, subject to the completion of an agreement to convey an access easement.

Legislative Authority: Section 6500 *et seq* of the Government Code.

Background: Browning-Ferris Industries (BFI) owns approximately 1200 acres of vacant land in Elsmere Canyon and has offered to donate the northerly 400 acres to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority. BFI is requiring that the MRCA agree to accept the property subject to an agreement to convey in the future a forty foot wide easement for access to BFI or its successor-in-interest if the access easement is required by a federal, state or county agency. Staff has spoken with the prospective buyer of the remaining 800 acres regarding entering into an agreement to convey the access easement. Staff recommends placing a term on the agreement, inclusion of terms and conditions regarding compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, and delegating to the Executive Officer authority to complete negotiations regarding the terms of the donation of the subject property.